Title/Subject: Conflict of Interest-Student Related Committees

Applies to: ☒ faculty ☒ students ☐ staff ☐ Other - Click or tap here to enter text.

☒ Policy ☐ System ☐ Process/Procedure ☐ Guideline/Standard ☐ Position Description

- Introduction
  - **Reason for the Policy:** Conflicts of interest, real or perceived, may arise when members of COM committees participate in decision making processes involving a student or applicant with whom they have a personal, professional, or academic relationship.
  - **Scope:** This policy is established to address the potential conflict of interests that may arise in these circumstances, in the interests of:
    - Avoiding the potential that assignments, assessments, grading, and progress could be impacted by a faculty member's knowledge of a student's illness, disability, or other status
    - Minimizing concerns about favoritism related to special relationships between a faculty and a student
    - Compliance with LCME Standard 1.2 *Conflict of Interest Policies*
    - Compliance with LCME Standard 10.3 *Policies Regarding Student Selection, Progress, and Their Dissemination*

- Policy/Process Statement:
  Texas A&M College of Medicine committee members shall recuse themselves from voting or decision making with respect to any student or applicant if the committee member has a conflict of interest. If a committee member is unsure if a conflict of interest exists, the dean or dean's designee, will serve as an arbitrator in determining a possible conflict of interest. This policy applies to all standing committees (including, but not limited to, Student Promotions Committee and Admissions Committee) and any subcommittee or called committee/task force that may deal with students.

- Compliance: On an annual basis, or at time of appointment or renewal, whichever best fits the committee membership model, committee members shall attest in writing that they have reviewed and agree to the conflict of interest policy.

- Definitions:
  - Personal Relationship – A personal relationship exists if the faculty member is the spouse, partner, parent, sibling, child or other relative of the student or applicant
  - Professional Relationship – A professional relationship exists if the faculty member has provided healthcare services to the student.
  - Academic Relationship – An academic relationship may exist if a faculty member has served as
formal mentor to the student, or provided the student with advice on personal matters. Academic relationships involving graduate students, however, are not considered conflicts of interest for faculty members.

● **Revision History:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Change</th>
<th>Authority</th>
<th>Summary of Changes</th>
<th>Document Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 23, 2019</td>
<td>Faculty Advisory Committee</td>
<td>New policy.</td>
<td>COM Policies and Procedures Team Drive in Google</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Authority:** Faculty Advisory Committee  
**Policy/Process POC:** OEQI  
**Effective Date:** 08-31-19  
**Review/Revision Schedule:** every 2 years  
**Indexed as:** conflict of interest, committees